

September 5, 1937

[Labor Day Message]

FDR Speech File

1067

9/3/37

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

file

8/27/37

MEMORANDUM FOR MAC

1187-a

Read this over and see what you think.

Tap down to Steve and ask him what Labof leaders it has been approved by. I think we should not only get Ed McGrady's OK but also Sidney Hillman's. I do not care for it very much.

F. D. R.

P. P. E.

1 F

John Davis
1937

file

The following message from the President to the Workers of the United States on the occasion of Labor Day is to be held for release in papers of Sunday, September 5, 1937:

"TO THE WORKERS OF THE UNITED STATES:

In a nation founded upon the honest toil of its pioneers, it is meet and fitting that a day should be set aside in special recognition of our debt to the untold millions whose labors have, in large measure, made this nation what it is today. In this year, which marks the fiftieth anniversary of Labor Day, it is especially fitting that the citizens be reminded of the importance of the workman's role in society. Then, too, Labor Day this year assumes an especial importance because of the struggle that we have been witnessing in recent months and the new emphasis placed by law and public opinion on the rights of labor and the privilege of organization.

The desire of labor for self-betterment and freedom from economic drudgery is not a new phenomenon. But in these latter years the cause of labor has found new strength and gained strong and vigorous impetus in enactments like the N. I. R. A. and the National Labor Relations Act. This newly found strength has been manifested during the present year in a wave of organization which has been attended by great industrial upheavals and dislocations.

The people of industrial states have borne the chief brunt of these upheavals, partly for the reason that the ravages of the depression bore with special severity upon the heavy industries of these states. Unhappily, many citizens have been greatly disturbed and some have suffered losses.

~~STATEMENTS FILE~~

PPF 1-F

most all as is usual in a controversy when opposing factors give way to basic passions, the issue was complicated through mutual distrust and bitter recrimination. Both sides made mistakes. While we deplore these mistakes it is for all of us as true Americans to resolve on this day devoted to labor that we shall seek to prevent their repetition by removing the cause. intelligent And although human passions have been aroused and human blood has been shed during the past eight months let us not forget that these outbreaks were brought under control before they assumed the sanguinary proportions of the massacres at Ludlow and Herrin and the Haymarket riots of awful memory in labor's long and hard fought progress toward a fair deal. May we not hope that after all the ordeal through which we have been passing is a part of the progress of our people toward a better, richer life in which material growth is matched by needful social adjustment.

Ours then is the duty to maintain an attitude based on sanity and reason -- to work for that happy consummation when bitterness and distrust will be replaced by mutual respect by the workman and employer. The conference table must eventually take the place of the strike.

There has been and continues to be urgent need to insure all ablebodied working men and women a fair day's pay for a fair day's work. I repeat what I said in my message to the workers of the United States last year: 'The wage earners of America do not ask for more. They will not be satisfied with less.'

Those of us who are in government and those whom government serves

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

file

September 1, 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. McINTYRE:

Dear Mr:

Here is the President's Labor Day Statement. You can give it out. I will handle it here only for advance confidential distribution to C. I. O., A. F. of L., etc.

STEPHEN EARLY

file

September 1, 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. J. V. FITZGERALD.

Dear Fitz:

I am sending you several copies of the President's Labor Day Statement. Thought that you might care to distribute these in advance to labor organizations who would hold them in confidence until they are released, but might want to get them in advance for their various publications which will not appear on the streets before the release date -- Sunday morning, September fifth.

STEPHEN EARLY
Secretary to the President

CENTRAL STATISTICAL BOARD

-7029-COMMERCE-BUILDING

WASHINGTON, D. C.

1319 F St.

file

August 24, 1937

MEMORANDUM

To: Mr. W. D. Hassett
From: Roger W. Jones
Assistant Executive Officer

I am returning the manuscript of the proposed Labor Day address, which you sent to me this noon with a request to check certain of the figures and statements therein set forth. The following comments and suggestions are sent for your consideration:

(1) On page 1, the statement that one-third of our people existed on public and private dole during the years 1931, 1932, and 1933 can not be justified. Figures are not available for 1931 except on the basis of very unsatisfactory estimates, or for the greater part of the year 1932. The 1933 figures reveal a peak of 20 million persons receiving Federal aid. Figures on persons receiving private aid are unsatisfactory or non-existent for all of the years referred to, but, on the basis of careful estimates by the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, indicate that the numbers receiving such private aid were not in excess of two and one-half to three million. These figures indicate a maximum total not in excess of 23 million, or less than one-fifth of the total population.

(2) At the bottom of page 2, the statement "I am informed that at no one time were there more than one percent of American workers on strike" can be justified only by inclusion in the term "American workers" some 12 million agricultural wage earners. Since the remainder of the paragraph does so include agricultural workers the statement can stand, although it is my opinion that a person wishing to criticize in detail would wish to exclude agricultural workers in any discussion of wage earners and strikes.

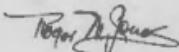
(3) The figures in the first paragraph of page 3 should

be changed and certain other phrases changed. A suggested re-wording is as follows: "According to statistics that have been furnished to me, there were more than 44 million wage earners employed during May. 794 strikes were in progress during that month, and the number of workers involved was 438,000. In June 871 strikes were in progress and 375,000 workers were involved. The percentage of all wage earners involved in strikes was ninety-nine one hundredths of one percent (.99) in May, as against approximately eighty-four one hundredths (.84) in June". You will note in this suggested revision that the exact total of wage earners employed during May is not given. I have changed this figure because of the lack of accurate knowledge of the number of agricultural workers which may be added to the total of persons gainfully employed in industry. The expression "number on strike" has been changed to "number of workers involved", by reason of the fact that the Bureau of Labor Statistics' tabulations do not give number of persons actually on strike. They include a very substantial number of persons not actually on strike but forced out, or locked out, or otherwise thrown out of work because of a strike in their industry or plant. The same change from "number on strike" to "number involved" has been made in the sentence concerning June, and in the sentence giving the ratio between persons involved in strikers and total wage earners. The last sentence in the paragraph in the original draft, "The total number of disputes during the first six months of the current year, or any year since 1933, is much lower than the corresponding number in the year 1917", is inaccurate and should be stricken. As a matter of fact, the number of strikes during the first six months of 1937^{were} almost twenty-five percent higher than the corresponding number during the first six months of 1917, or 2,524 in 1937 as against 2,048 in 1917. Similarly, the number of persons involved in strikes was greater during the first six months of the current year than during the same period in 1917.

(4) I note that you have questioned the word "insignificant" in the second line of the second paragraph on page 3. While the statement is not susceptible of statistical checking, I believe the word "insignificant" is not well advised.

(5) You have not marked for checking the statement concerning "gains reflected in higher wages" appearing at the bottom of page 3, and since the basis of comparison used in this figure is not clear I have not attempted to check it. In other words, I am not sure what is meant by "this period of organization".

Please call me if you have any questions or wish further work done.





FRANK MURPHY
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
EXECUTIVE OFFICE
LANSING

file

J. C.
get possible out
for Labor Day
or statement

Dear Miss Sehand:-

Please hand to
the Good President for his reading
a few suggestions I have to offer for
Labor Day. I fear they will be of
little use.

My recent visit was a
refreshing and happy experience.
Bless you all!

Frank Murphy

Friday August 13rd 1937

Governor Murphy

LABOR DAY ADDRESS

In a nation founded upon the honest toil of its pioneers, it is meet and fitting that a day should be set aside in special recognition of our debt to the untold millions whose labors have, in large measure, made this nation what it is today. Traditionally it is an occasion on which the citizen is reminded of the importance of the workman's role in society. This year it assumes an especial importance because of the struggle that we have been witnessing in recent months and the new emphasis placed by law and public opinion on the rights of labor and the privilege of organization.

In a broad sense, this struggle is a part of labor's effort toward making a better America. / It is a part of the progress of our people toward a better, richer life in which material growth is matched by needful social adjustment.

Out of the dark years of 1931, '32, and '33, marked by a depression unparalleled in our history, has emerged a burning desire on the part of labor to avoid a repetition of the havoc of those years in which a third of our people existed on public and private dole. Our workingmen want to put behind them the gnawing fear of insecurity and free themselves of the spectre of a dependent and hopeless future. ?

They hope to accomplish this through the media of improved working conditions, shorter hours, higher wages, more

sanitary and better protected shops, and insurance against occupational disease and unemployment.

The desire of labor for self-betterment and freedom from economic drudgery is not a new phenomenon. But in these latter years the cause of labor has found new strength and gained strong and vigorous impetus in enactments like the N. I. R. A. and the National Labor Relations Act. This newly found strength has been manifested during the present year in a wave of organization which has been attended by great industrial upheavals, ^{and disturbance} ~~the greatest America has known.~~

2nd part
The people of industrial states have born the chief brunt of these upheavals, partly for the reason that the ravages of the depression bore with special severity upon the heavy industries of this region. Unhappily many citizens have been greatly disturbed and some have suffered losses. In this new impulsive surge toward unity, labor has made mistakes which if they cannot be condoned are nevertheless understandable. These are by-products of labor unrest that we all regret and should seek to avoid in the future. The effects of this unrest, however, have been greatly exaggerated. Some aspects of it have not been publicized as widely as others.

Despite the fact that the mass industry strikes of last winter involved hundreds of thousands of workers, and were the greatest in our history, I am informed that at no one time were there more than one percent of American workers on strike.

(check)

According to statistics that have been furnished to me, there were 44,327,000 wage-earners employed during May. 756 strikes were in progress during that month and the number ⁷⁹⁴ ~~workers involved~~ ^{en-strike} were 437,000. In June 875 strikes were in progress and 375,000 workers were ^{involved} ~~on-strike~~. The percentage of all wage-earners on strikes in May was eighty-seven one hundredths of one percent (.87), and in June it was eighty-four one hundredths (.84). [The total number of disputes during the first six months of the current year, or any year since 1933, is much lower than the corresponding number in the year 1917.] *Check* ^{check} ~~Delete sentence~~

The violence and bloodshed that have occurred during the past eight months have been insignificant if compared with the holocausts at Ludlow and Herrin and Haymarket several decades ago. We could have had a physical encounter of sizeable proportions. We chose to avoid it by seeking peace through the sane method of conference. The results achieved by this method have not been accorded the publicity given to "settlements" arrived at by force. Relatively little too has been said of the actual gains which have been made during this period of organization. These gains are reflected in higher wages, which I am told in a normal working year would total \$250,000,000; in shorter working days; and in the establishment of agencies to insure collective bargaining.

We are still near the struggles and the conflicts of this surge of labor activity. Some of them are still with us. In time, however, the bitterness and unpleasantness of the recent past and present will be forgotten if we maintain an attitude based on sanity and reason. They will be replaced by mutual respect between workman and employer. The conference table will eventually take the place of the strike.

Those of us who are in government and those whom government serves must all do their part by placing at the service of capital and labor the necessary machinery to facilitate the adjustment of disputes, and thereby eliminate the need for strikes and interference with the free flow of commerce. Such machinery is needed if we are to deal with this problem in a manner that is in keeping with our heritage of human reason and intelligence. On the exercise of that intelligence we must base our hopes for peace.

August 1937

Frank Murphy

Secretary Perkins

The wage earners of the United States will observe the 50th anniversary of Labor Day tomorrow. To them all I extend hearty greetings and the sincere wish that the coming year will see a continuation and consolidation of the improvement in their conditions which has been so marked in the last 4 years.

Employment for workers has increased since last Labor Day and weekly payrolls have gone up; farm income has risen and the profits of merchants and manufacturers have likewise increased to make for a much brighter economic situation.

While we have made progress in this direction we cannot afford to stand still now. The purchasing power of the Nation's wage earners and farmers must be maintained if we are to achieve and maintain a national economy in the interest of all our people. To this end we must see to it that there be job security and a living wage for all our workers.

We know that one-third of our people are ill-nourished, ill-clad and ill-housed. There has been and continues to be urgent need to insure all able-bodied working men and women a fair day's pay for a fair day's work. With this need recognized there will be no slackening of efforts to achieve the worthy goal in the best interest of the whole Nation. The American people will see that it is achieved before the coming of another Labor Day.

HOLD FOR RELEASE

HOLD FOR RELEASE

HOLD FOR RELEASE

September 2, 1937

CONFIDENTIAL UNTIL RELEASED

NOTE: This statement by the President is for publication
in the MORNING newspapers of Sunday, September fifth.

Please safeguard against premature release.

STEPHEN EARLY
Secretary to the President

- - - - -
A LABOR DAY STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT:

"In a nation founded upon the honest toil of its pioneers, it is meet and fitting that a day should be set aside in special recognition of our debt to the untold millions whose labors have, in large measure, made this nation what it is today. In this year, which marks the fiftieth anniversary of Labor Day, it is especially fitting that the citizens be reminded of the importance of the workman's role in society. Then, too, Labor Day this year assumes an especial importance because of the struggle which we have been witnessing in recent months and the new emphasis placed by law and public opinion on the rights of labor and the privilege of organization.

"As is usual in a controversy when opposing factors give way to basic passions, the age old contest between capital and labor has been complicated in recent months through mutual distrust and bitter recrimination. Both sides have made mistakes. While we deplore these mistakes it is for all of us as true Americans to resolve on this day devoted to labor that we shall, by removing the cause, seek to prevent their repetition. Although human passions have been aroused during the past eight months, let us not forget that these difficulties were brought under control before they assumed more than local proportions.

"Ours as a people is the duty to maintain an attitude based on sanity and reason -- to work for that happy consummation when bitterness and distrust shall be replaced by mutual respect by workmen and employer. The conference table must eventually take the place of the strike. There has been and continues to be urgent need to insure all able-bodied working men and women a living wage for a fair day's work. I repeat what I said in my message to the workers of the United States last year: 'The wage earners of America do not ask for more. They will not be satisfied with less.'

"Those of us who are in government and those whom government serves must all do their part by placing at the service of capital and labor the necessary machinery to facilitate the adjustment of disputes, and thereby eliminate the need for strikes and interference with the flow of wages and of commerce. Such machinery must be perfected if we are to deal with this problem in a manner that is in keeping with our heritage of human reason and intelligence. On the exercise of that intelligence we must base our hopes for peace.

"The Government has committed itself to a very definite program in the advancement of the economic, industrial and spiritual welfare of our people. Our aim has been the advancement of human progress with industrial progress. We have attempted to create work security with reasonable wages and humane conditions of employment; to provide better homes and bring to the family life of our country new comforts and a greater happiness.

"We are determined to carry-on for the attainment of this objective."

* * * * *

STANDARD FORM NO. 14A
APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT
MARCH 10, 1936

TELEGRAM

OFFICIAL BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT RATES

Telegraphic memorandum for McIntyre:

FROM

The White House
Washington

August 30, 1937.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 132066

Dear Mr. Ed McGrady suggests the elimination from the proposed draft of the Labor Day statement of references to the massacres at Ludlow and Herrin and the Haymarket riot STOP This would eliminate the last sentence of paragraph two in the draft form STOP At the conclusion of the statement he suggests the addition of something such as this COLON PARAGRAPH QUOTE The Government has committed itself to a very definite program in the advancement of the economic industrial and spiritual welfare of our people STOP Our aim has been the advancement of human progress with industrial progress STOP We have attempted to create work security with reasonable wages and humane conditions of employment SEMICOLON to provide better homes and bring to the family life of our country new comforts and a greater happiness PARAGRAPH We are determined to carry on for the attainment of this objective UNQUOTE PARAGRAPH The original draft COMMA for your information COMMA was a composite of the Labor Departments suggestions and those received from Governor Murphy of Michigan

STEVE

STANDARD FORM No. 14A
APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT
MARCH 10, 1938

TELEGRAM
OFFICIAL BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT RATES

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FROM The White House
 Washington

August 30, 1937.

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 112066

STEVE

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
WASHINGTON

August 28, 1937

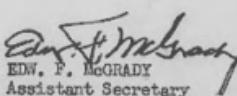
MEMORANDUM TO HONORABLE STEPHEN EARLY

Dear Steve:

The speech as it is written will answer the purpose, but I am wondering if someone might question bringing up the massacres at Ludlow and Herrin and the Haymarket riots. Would they attempt to make comparisons?

Why shouldn't we, in this Labor Day Message, point out the things that this Administration has attempted to do for Labor? My mind runs along the following:

"The Government has committed itself to a very definite program in the advancement of the economic, industrial and spiritual welfare of all our people. Our aim has been the advancement of human progress along with industrial progress. We have attempted to create work security with reasonable wages and humane conditions of employment; to provide better homes and happier families; all of which means a higher quality of citizenship."


EDW. F. McGRADY
Assistant Secretary

The following message from the President to the Workers of the United States on the occasion of Labor Day is to be held for release in papers of Sunday, September 5, 1937:

TO THE WORKERS OF THE UNITED STATES:

In a nation founded upon the honest toil of its pioneers, it is meet and fitting that a day should be set aside in special recognition of our debt to the untold millions whose labors have, in large measure, made this nation what it is today. In this year, which marks the fiftieth anniversary of Labor Day, it is especially fitting that the citizens be reminded of the importance of the workman's role in society. Then, too, Labor Day this year assumes an especial importance because of the struggle which we have been witnessing in recent months and the new emphasis placed by law and public opinion on the rights of labor and the privilege of organization.

As is usual in a controversy when opposing factors give way to basic passions, the age old contest between capital and labor has been complicated this year through mutual distrust and bitter recrimination. Both sides have made mistakes. While we deplore these mistakes it is for all of us as true Americans to resolve on this day devoted to labor that we shall, by removing the cause, seek to prevent their repetition. (Although human passions have been aroused and human blood has been shed during the past eight months, let us not forget that these outbreaks were brought under control before they assumed the sanguinary proportions of the massacres at Ludlow and Herrin and the Haymarket riots of awful memory in labor's long and hard fought progress toward a fair deal.)

Ours as a people is the duty to maintain an attitude based on sanity and reason — to work for that happy consummation when bitterness

and distrust shall be replaced by mutual respect by workman and employer. The conference table must eventually take the place of the strike. There has been and continues to be urgent need to insure all able-bodied working men and women a living wage for a fair day's work. I repeat what I said in my message to the workers of the United States last year: 'The wage earners of America do not ask for more. They will not be satisfied with less.'

Those of us who are in government and those whom government serves must all do their part by placing at the service of capital and labor the necessary machinery to facilitate the adjustment of disputes, and thereby eliminate the need for strikes and interference with the free flow of commerce. Such machinery must be perfected if we are to deal with this problem in a manner that is in keeping with our heritage of human reason and intelligence. On the exercise of that intelligence we must base our hopes for peace.

August 27, 1937

MEMORANDUM TO HONORABLE EDWARD F. McGRADY:

Dear Ed:

Here is a draft of a Labor Day statement which has been prepared for the President's approval. He has not yet approved it and I would like very much to have your comments or criticism of it. Please feel free to make any corrections, eliminations or additions and let me hear from you not later than Monday.

STEPHEN EARLY
Secretary to the President

Carbon of second draft.
This has
original

The following message from the President to the Workers of the United States on the occasion of Labor Day is to be held for release in papers of Sunday, September 5, 1937:

TO THE WORKERS OF THE UNITED STATES:

In a nation founded upon the honest toil of its pioneers, it is meet and fitting that a day should be set aside in special recognition of our debt to the untold millions whose labors have, in large measure, made this nation what it is today. In this year, which marks the fiftieth anniversary of Labor Day, it is especially fitting that the citizens be reminded of the importance of the workman's role in society. Then, too, Labor Day this year assumes an especial importance because of the struggle which we have been witnessing in recent months and the new emphasis placed by law and public opinion on the rights of labor and the privilege of organization.

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Ours as a people is the duty to maintain an attitude based on sanity and reason -- to work for that happy consummation when bitterness

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Those of us who are in government and those whom government serves must all do their part by placing at the service of capital and labor the necessary machinery to facilitate the adjustment of disputes, and thereby eliminate the need for strikes and interference with the free flow of commerce. Such machinery must be perfected if we are to deal with this problem in a manner that is in keeping with our heritage of human reason and intelligence. On the exercise of that intelligence we must base our hopes for peace.

STANDARD FORM NO. 14A
APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT
MARCH 10, 1958

TELEGRAM
OFFICIAL BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT RATES

Telegraphic memo for McIntyre:

We do have a carbon copy of the proposed Labor Day statement STOP Will use this to check with McGrady STOP Not necessary to mail the one you have

STEVE

FROM The White House
 Washington

August 28, 1957.

~~The following message from the President to the Workers of the United States on the occasion of Labor Day is to be held for release in papers of Sunday, September 5, 1937:~~

~~"TO THE CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES~~

In a nation founded upon the honest toil of its pioneers, it is meet and fitting that a day should be set aside in special recognition of our debt to the untold millions whose labors have, in large measure, made this nation what it is today. In this year, which marks the fiftieth anniversary of Labor Day, it is especially fitting that the citizens be reminded of the importance of the workman's role in society. Then, too, Labor Day this year assumes an especial importance because of the struggle which we have been witnessing in recent months and the new emphasis placed by law and public opinion on the rights of labor and the privilege of organization.

As is usual in a controversy when opposing factors give way to basic passions, the age old contest between capital and labor has been complicated ^{in recent months} ~~this year~~ through mutual distrust and bitter recrimination. Both sides have made mistakes. While we deplore these mistakes it is for all of us as true Americans to resolve on this day devoted to labor that we shall, by removing the cause, seek to prevent their repetition. Although human passions have been aroused ~~enough blood has been shed~~ during the past eight months, let us not forget that these ~~differences~~ were brought under control before they assumed ~~more than local~~ proportions, ~~of the massacres at~~ ~~Baldwin and Hanna and the Haymarket riots of awful memory in labor's long~~ ~~and hard fought progress toward a fair deal.~~

Ours as a people is the duty to maintain an attitude based on sanity and reason -- to work for that happy consummation when bitterness

and distrust shall be replaced by mutual respect by workman and employer. The conference table must eventually take the place of the strike. There has been and continues to be urgent need to insure all able-bodied working men and women a living wage for a fair day's work. I repeat what I said in my message to the workers of the United States last year: 'The wage earners of America do not ask for more. They will not be satisfied with less.'

Those of us who are in government and those whom government serves must all do their part by placing at the service of capital and labor the necessary machinery to facilitate the adjustment of disputes, and thereby eliminate the need for strikes and interference with the ~~wages and of~~ flow of commerce.
Such machinery must be perfected if we are to deal with this problem in a manner that is in keeping with our heritage of human reason and intelligence. On the exercise of that intelligence we must base our hopes for peace.

Add A.

Franklin Roosevelt

TELEGRAM

The White House

Washington WX 8-30-37.

Memo. to Mr. McIntyre,
PK.

Dear Mac: Ed McGrady suggests the elimination from the proposed draft of the Labor Day statement of references to the massacres at Ludlow and Herrin and the Haymarket riots. This would eliminate the last sentence of paragraph Two in the draft form. At the conclusion of the statement he suggests the addition of something such as this:

"The Government has committed itself to a very definite program in the advancement of the economic, industrial and spiritual welfare of our people. Our aim has been the advancement of human progress with industrial progress. We have attempted to create work security with reasonable wages and humane conditions of employment; to provide better homes and bring the family life of our country new comforts and a greater happiness.

"We are determined to carry-on for the attainment of this objective." } 4

The original draft, for your information, was a composite of the Labor Department's suggestions and those received from Governor Murphy of Michigan.

Steve.

1136am

HOLD FOR RELEASE

HOLD FOR RELEASE

HOLD FOR RELEASE

September 2, 1937

CONFIDENTIAL UNTIL RELEASED

NOTE: This statement by the President is for publication
in the MORNING newspapers of Sunday, September fifth.

Please safeguard against premature release.

STEPHEN EARLY
Secretary to the President

- - - - -
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"In a nation founded upon the honest toil of its pioneers, it is meet and fitting that a day should be set aside in special recognition of our debt to the untold millions whose labors have, in large measure, made this nation what it is today. In this year, which marks the fiftieth anniversary of Labor Day, it is especially fitting that the citizens be reminded of the importance of the workman's role in society. Then, too, Labor Day this year assumes an especial importance because of the struggle which we have been witnessing in recent months and the new emphasis placed by law and public opinion on the rights of labor and the privilege of organization.

"As is usual in a controversy when opposing factors give way to basic passions, the age old contest between capital and labor has been complicated in recent months through mutual distrust and bitter recrimination. Both sides have made mistakes. While we deplore these mistakes it is for all of us as true Americans to resolve on this day devoted to labor that we shall, by removing the cause, seek to prevent their repetition. Although human passions have been aroused during the past eight months, let us not forget that these difficulties were brought under control before they assumed more than local proportions.

"Ours as a people is the duty to maintain an attitude based on sanity and reason -- to work for that happy consummation when bitterness and distrust shall be replaced by mutual respect by workmen and employer. The conference table must eventually take the place of the strike. There has been and continues to be urgent need to insure all able-bodied working men and women a living wage for a fair day's work. I repeat what I said in my message to the workers of the United States last year; 'The wage earners of America do not ask for more. They will not be satisfied with less.'

"Those of us who are in government and those whom government serves must all do their part by placing at the service of capital and labor the necessary machinery to facilitate the adjustment of disputes, and thereby eliminate the need for strikes and interference with the flow of wages and of commerce. Such machinery must be perfected if we are to deal with this problem in a manner that is in keeping with our heritage of human reason and intelligence. On the exercise of that intelligence we must base our hopes for peace.

"The Government has committed itself to a very definite program in the advancement of the economic, industrial and spiritual welfare of our people. Our aim has been the advancement of human progress with industrial progress. We have attempted to create work security with reasonable wages and humane conditions of employment; to provide better homes and bring to the family life of our country new comforts and a greater happiness.

"We are determined to carry-on for the attainment of this objective."

* * * * *